

# **Dronabinol**

*droe-NAB-i-nol*

**Brand Name:** Marinol

**Drug Class:** Opportunistic Infection and Other Drugs

Dronabinol, also known as Marinol, belongs to the class of drugs known as antiemetics. Antiemetics prevent nausea and vomiting. Dronabinol is also an appetite stimulant.

## **HIV/AIDS-Related Uses**

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Dronabinol was approved by the FDA on December 23, 1992, for the treatment of AIDS-related anorexia (appetite loss) and HIV wasting syndrome. These conditions can be caused by HIV infection itself or by opportunistic infections that occur in people with HIV. Dronabinol is also approved by the FDA for the prevention of nausea and vomiting caused by certain cancer treatments.

## **Dosage Form/Administration**

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Dronabinol comes in a soft gel capsule form and is taken by mouth.

## **Contraindications**

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Individuals should tell a doctor about any medical problems before taking this medicine.

## **Possible Side Effects**

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Along with its desired effects, dronabinol may cause some unwanted effects, including amnesia, changes in mood, confusion, delusions, feelings of unreality, hallucinations, mental depression, nervousness, anxiety, and fast or pounding heartbeat. Individuals should tell a doctor if they have any of these side effects.

Other side effects of this medicine may not be serious and may lessen or disappear with continued use of this medicine. Less serious side effects include clumsiness or unsteadiness, dizziness, drowsiness, euphoria, trouble thinking, nausea, and vomiting. Individuals should tell a doctor if these side effects continue or are bothersome.

## **Drug and Food Interactions**

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A doctor should be notified of any other medications being taken, including prescription, nonprescription (over-the-counter), or herbal medications.

## **Clinical Trials**

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For information on clinical trials that involve Dronabinol, visit the ClinicalTrials.gov web site at <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>. In the Search box, enter: Dronabinol AND HIV Infections.

## **Manufacturer Information**

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Dronabinol  
Unimed Pharmaceuticals Inc  
4 Parkway North 2nd floor  
Deerfield, IL 60015  
(847) 282-5400

Marinol  
Unimed Pharmaceuticals Inc  
4 Parkway North 2nd floor  
Deerfield, IL 60015  
(847) 282-5400

## **For More Information**

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Contact your doctor or an AIDSinfo Health Information Specialist:

- Via Phone: 1-800-448-0440 Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 5:00 p.m. ET
- Via Live Help: [http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live\\_help](http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live_help) Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 4:00 p.m. ET